

THE DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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The Bee Publishing Company, Proprietors
Bee Building, Farnam and Seventeenth Streets,
Omaha, Neb.

The Bee on the Trains.
There is no excuse for a failure to get The Bee on the trains. All newspapers have been notified to carry The Bee and postpaid orders for Omaha papers are carried as requested to notify The Bee.

THE DAILY BEE.

State of Nebraska.

Sworn Statement of Circulation,
State of Nebraska,
County of Douglas, ss.
I, George H. Tschuck, Secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, do hereby certify that the actual circulation of The Daily Bee for the week ending September 28, 1889, was as follows:

Sunday, Sept. 22, 1889, 10,000
Monday, Sept. 23, 1889, 10,000
Tuesday, Sept. 24, 1889, 10,000
Wednesday, Sept. 25, 1889, 10,000
Thursday, Sept. 26, 1889, 10,000
Friday, Sept. 27, 1889, 10,000
Saturday, Sept. 28, 1889, 10,000

Average, 10,000

Sworn to before me and subscribed to in my presence this 2nd day of September, A. D. 1889.
(Seal) N. P. Felt, Notary Public,
State of Nebraska.

County of Douglas, ss.
George H. Tschuck, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, that the actual average daily circulation of The Daily Bee for the month of September, 1889, was as follows: For September 1, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 2, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 3, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 4, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 5, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 6, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 7, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 8, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 9, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 10, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 11, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 12, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 13, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 14, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 15, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 16, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 17, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 18, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 19, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 20, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 21, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 22, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 23, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 24, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 25, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 26, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 27, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 28, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 29, 1889, 10,000 copies; for September 30, 1889, 10,000 copies.

Sworn to before me and subscribed to in my presence this 2nd day of September, A. D. 1889.
(Seal) N. P. Felt, Notary Public,
State of Nebraska.

THE BEE'S SUNDAY FLYER.

Commencing Sunday morning, October 6, THE BEE will run a special newspaper train, via the Union Pacific railway, from Omaha to Grand Island and Hastings, arriving at the latter point at 9:15 a. m.

The train will reach Fremont at 5:10 a. m. and there transfer packages of THE SUNDAY BEE for points north and south on the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley railroad, which will place the paper in Lincoln, Seward, York and intermediate points twenty-four hours ahead of all competitors.

Leaving Fremont at 5:15, the train will arrive at Grand Island at 8:30 a. m. At Grand Island packages of THE SUNDAY BEE for Kearney and points west will be transferred to the Union Pacific fast freight, which reaches Kearney about 11 a. m.

The service will be ample, every provision having been made to supply news agents and regular subscribers.

All orders for THE SUNDAY BEE for points reached by THE Bee flyer and connecting trains should be wired to THE BEE before midnight Saturday. For the Sunday following send in your orders by mail.

While this is not the first special newspaper train which THE BEE has chartered, it is the first time that any newspaper west of Chicago has attempted to transport its papers by special train a distance of over one hundred and seventy miles. While the publishers do not expect to realize anything approaching the heavy output incurred by this exclusive service, its patrons and the public generally can not fail to appreciate an enterprise that will place THE SUNDAY BEE on their Sunday breakfast tables in towns and cities reached by the regular mail train between 10 a. m. and sundown.

IN THE hurly-burly of politics the fight between the board of public works and paving contractors seems to have been forgotten.

THE double-headed freak is thoroughly posted on "hails." It is making a monthly haul on the city treasury with advertising bills without rendering an equivalent.

IF THE prevailing rule could be reversed and the office sought the man, nine out of every ten of the multitude of candidates in the field would not receive the slightest recognition.

BOSTON sports have invaded Omaha. If the cultured representatives of the Hub will indicate their pleasure, they can be accommodated with anything from a chicken fight to a championship base ball game.

THE paternal care and anxiety displayed by street car corporations for the welfare of their men is purely unselfish of course. Having designated a clothing house for their patronage, it is now in order to say where the men shall get shaved and have their washing done.

THE International United Directors' Association of the United States and Canada, now in session in Toronto, Canada, will hold its meeting next year in Omaha. While this climate is no stimulant of their business, the sad, solemn and melancholy directors of funerals will learn much to their advantage by coming to Omaha.

DENVER and Kansas City papers are exceedingly disgruntled because their people will not have an opportunity of seeing the delegates to the Pan-American congress. On behalf of this hospitable community we tender the freeedom of the city to residents of both towns during the coming visit of the congress to Omaha.

THE most important of county offices are scarcely given passing notice. The precinct and ward assessors, whose valuations of property affect every taxpayer, are dumped into the political cauldron with constables and other precinct officials that are comparatively of little or no moment to taxpayers.

GROFF'S FIRST DECISION.

The first decision of Judge Groff as commissioner of the general land office is of more than local importance. It does more than settle a disputed entry of a poor homesteader in Minnesota to whom it confirms the title of his claim awarded on a flimsy technicality of the law. It sounds the note which the present administration proposes to itself to adopt in dealing with land entries in the west, and gives welcome earnest that equity is to take the place of that inflexible and often cruel legal construction which prevailed toward western homesteaders during the last administration. For this reason Judge Groff's first decision has been sent broadcast by the press throughout the country as one of national interest. In its far-reaching effect it will bring relief to the honest settlers in all the states and territories where the process of turning the prairie into the farm under the operations of the general land laws is still in progress.

The commissioner of the general land office was fortunate in the case presented. It involved the cancellation of a homestead entry because the settler, a wretched poor man, was unable to finish his house on his claim in the six months within which the law required settlement to be made.

The proof showed that he worked hard to earn money to buy his lumber, finally erected his home and put in his crop, finishing the required work a short time after the date fixed by the statute.

Judge Groff in his decision denies that any reasonable cause is shown for the cancellation of the entry, and lays down the following important rule by which the land office will be bound in the future in dealing with kindred cases:

The rule requiring the maker of a homestead entry to establish an actual residence upon the land within six months from the date of his entry, like all rules, has its exceptions, and is not to be insisted upon where the settler's good faith toward the government is sufficiently shown or where his acts are not inconsistent with an honest purpose to comply with the law.

The decision is such a one as might have been expected from Lewis A. Groff. It is based on an equitable interpretation of the intent of the statute and not upon an unyielding application of its letter, regardless of circumstances. As such it is in the line of a liberal construction of the land laws for the benefit of the honest settler, while leaving the land office free to construe them rigidly as against the dishonest and the land grabbers.

There will be a general feeling of relief throughout the west over the assurance thus given by Judge Groff that the general land office need not be looked upon as an instrument for the oppression of individuals or as an engine for the suppression of the weaker element.

The specific case decided is an interesting one, but its interest is small beside the ruling which its determination called forth and infinitesimal in comparison with the broad and liberal and equitable disposition which in its consideration the general land commissioner has evidenced towards the west, western interests and the settlement of the frontier. That Judge Groff will prove equally capable of dealing with still larger subjects when presented for his determination, no one who knows his patient industry and his sterling integrity will doubt for a moment.

THE AUSTRALIAN BALLOT.

At the November election Massachusetts will vote under the Australian ballot system, and as she will be the first state to apply this plan with very little modification, the result will be awaited with general interest. It will prove to be in Massachusetts an improvement over the old system an agitation for its introduction in other states is to be expected, while if it should show no advantages over the system it will supersede, in preventing the corrupt practices in elections for which it is claimed to be the remedy, the country will probably hear no more of it.

It may as well be said in advance of the experiment with the new law in Massachusetts, that those who expect to absolutely banish bribery and other abuses at elections are very sure to be disappointed. In Australia and other British colonies where similar ballot laws are in force they have not been found effective in wholly preventing corrupt practices in elections. There is an extremely bad state of affairs in the Australian colonies in connection with the suffrage before the ballot system now in vogue in those colonies was adopted, and it is not questionable that it has worked an improvement there, but it has not removed all the evils.

A writer in the October Forum, who is perfectly familiar with the system because he "has been both elected and defeated many times under the ballot," says that while it affords complete protection against intimidation, except in the case of people who are so timid that they are scarcely fit to exercise any civic function, it is not so effective a protection against bribery. In theory, of course, says this writer, the ballot is a complete protection against bribery, because the person who gives the bribe can not be sure that he gets the vote he has paid for. Thus wholesale and systematic bribery, such as used to go on in open voting, has been made impossible. Yet there are devices by which bribery may be effected. Says the writer in The Forum, and he states one simple method that has been often employed. It is this: An agent arranges with a number of men that they are to receive so much for their votes. He then brings them to the voting booth in a body, and sends the first in with instructions to put a piece of blank paper into the ballot box instead of the ballot paper, and to bring the ballot paper out to him, the agent. This involves the sacrifice of one vote, but it insures all the others. The second man puts the first man's ballot paper, which has previously been examined by the agent to make sure that it is correct, into the ballot box, and brings out his own. The third man puts that in and brings out another, and so on until the tale is exhausted.

haunted. Shrewd and ingenious politicians might find other expedients for evading the law.

The result in Massachusetts with the new law will be watched with great and general interest, and it will go far to determine public sentiment in other states in favor of or against this plan of ballot reform.

THE MAN AND HIS RECORD.

When a public man comes before the people for promotion he should at least have a clean record behind him. The admirers and supporters of Secretary Laws have essayed to secure his nomination for congress under false pretenses. Their principal stock in trade has been Mr. Laws' honorable career as register of the McCook land office. On that score the only proof to the contrary has been the well known incident at McCook on the day Mr. Laws entered upon his duties as register. The back door of the land office was thrown open to a gang of claim jumpers, while honest homesteaders were barred out at the front door. This has been scouted by the swash-buckler press of the Republican Valley as an unworthy act.

Now we are in position to further corroborate the well founded suspicion that Mr. Laws was not as straight in his office as register as he would have us believe. No man can read the letter of R. H. Stewart, an old soldier and citizen of Sutton, in Clay county, without reaching the conclusion that the management of the McCook land office under Mr. Laws was not in the interest of the honest homesteader, but chiefly for the benefit of the land shark and perjured pre-emptor. That these revelations have been withheld until this time does not condone the offense. It simply shows that the republicans in the Second district, who have been wronged, have had a great deal of forbearance with a man who also had been a soldier. But there is no written or unwritten law that justifies a man who has been unfaithful to a trust in demanding a position as representative in congress even if, like Corporal Tanner, he had lost both of his legs in defense of the union.

The republicans of Nebraska have always shown the greatest consideration for the old soldier, but they have not always been willing to sacrifice the interests of the state to crippled union veterans when they found them to be unworthy of public confidence.

A very striking instance is the record of John J. Gosper. In 1874 Gosper was nominated secretary of state, with a burr, over all competitors, because Tom Kennard announced that he had left a leg on a southern battle field. At the end of two years as secretary of state Gosper was retired from office and shelved because he had failed to inspire public confidence. This precedent might have been followed in the case of Mr. Laws very properly at the end of his first term but for his action on the railroad commission just before the convention, which led the people to believe that he desired to do his whole duty regardless of corporation pressure. The convention had scarcely adjourned when Mr. Laws became a backslider, and in violation of the pledges made in the republican platform that the freight rates in this state should be reduced Mr. Laws voted to reconsider the action of the commission and to leave the rates where they had been.

It seems to us, therefore, that Mr. Laws' record in the land office, and in the office of secretary of state, is not such as to warrant republicans in forcing him upon the Second district, and upon the state at large, in defiance of public sentiment.

A RADICAL CHANGE NEEDED.

As Lincoln the coroner's office is filled by a physician. The propriety of this is now manifest. The third wife of a local physician has just died suddenly and from a mysterious disease. Suspicious of foul play have been aroused and citizens have petitioned the coroner to make a post mortem inquest. The coroner can readily comply with this request without incurring needless expense for Lancaster county. Had this occurred in Omaha, where accidental and mysterious deaths occur quite often, the coroner would be compelled to call an inquest and employ a physician. This is radically wrong, no matter from what standpoint it is viewed. A city engineer is expected to be a civil engineer, and a coroner should by all means be a practicing physician. Instead of our coroners have for years been undertakers. Their interest in the sale of coffins and conduct of funerals is paramount. As a consequence often been farcical and ineffectual. There have been no inquests, because the coroner did not like to offend parties whose patronage he values.

A new departure in the selection of coroners is in order. This is demanded, not because we have any ill-feeling toward John Drexel or Michael Maul, but because we believe that a radical change in the selection of material for coroner is imperatively demanded in the interest of our citizens.

THE state constitution leaves no room for doubt as to the manner and method of filling vacancies on the supreme and district benches. It provides that in case of a vacancy in either court before the expiration of the regular term, "the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the governor, until a successor shall be elected and qualified, and such successor shall be elected for the unexpired term of the first general election that occurs more than thirty days after this provision clearly gives the candidate elected at the coming election his place on the district bench the moment his election is certified by the proper authority. There is no law to prevent him qualifying until the first of January following. That would simply prolong a vacancy which he was elected to fill. The primary intent of our system of government is to have every department constantly administered. There should be no interregnum on the bench any more than in the executive

chair. To this end the broadest latitude must be given for filling vacancies. To take any other view would be disastrous and cause serious complications.

THERE is one feature of the Wyoming constitution, just completed, which merits special commendation. It is the provision which prohibits the importation of armed men to suppress domestic insurrection. The effect of this would be to exclude from Wyoming, whenever it shall become a state, armed bodies of Pinkerton or other detectives such as invade the states whenever there is a contest between employers and their employees, overawing the people and frequently committing the gravest outrages. The people of Wyoming are content to rely upon the authorities of their own creation for their protection, and in order to be sure that outside mercenaries shall not be brought among them they have built the barrier that shall keep them out in the organic law. It is not the least creditable part of the work done by the constitutional convention.

SENATOR FARWELL, of Illinois, explains the high cost of beef as due to the fact that people will only eat the best cuts. The senator does not attempt to explain what becomes of the vast portion of Texas steers which are not susceptible of choice cuts. He certainly can not think the people are veridant enough to believe that packers do not make a profit on those portions of the beef. If the senator cares to attempt a defense of the beef monopoly he should do the subject justice and not shrink any portion of his labor. Those people who are not satisfied with the best cuts are thoroughly robbed as the meat. Let the choice portions of the meat. Let the senator explain why beef on the hoof is so very cheap and dressed is so very dear.

ACCORDING to a recent consular report, co-operative societies are becoming very numerous in Germany. It is said over four thousand are doing a profitable business in the empire. Those societies, which take the form of a savings bank and life insurance company, have never been so popular in this country as in Europe. They might well attract the attention of wage-workers, especially those who receive small pay. They afford safer places for investment of earnings than most of the savings banks managed by private parties, and they also offer advantages not possessed by the banks.

Now that brick is as cheap in Omaha as it is in Kansas City and Denver, the fire limits should be extended over the whole city. Kansas City and Denver derive great advantage from the fact that they are built up entirely of brick. They impress people by the substantial character of their buildings and that has helped them greatly with investors and proved of material advantage in holding up their real estate prices. If Omaha would now stop building frame houses she would not only gain immensely in appearance but would soon overtake Kansas City in population and wealth.

THE congress of the Three Americas causes commotion in the vicinity of the infantile throne of Spain. That monarchial reminiscence naturally dreads the growth of republicanism around provinces in which the people are deprived of the right of government by the power of bayonets. The result of the congress will undoubtedly strengthen and encourage the Cuban patriots to continue the struggle against foreign despotism.

THE United States had the best navy in the world at the close of the civil war. It was the result of republican policy. Its decay commenced when the democratic party obtained control of the lower house of congress in 1875. Now that the republicans are again in the majority in both branches of congress it is certain that the government will soon have a fleet of warships worthy of the country's commercial importance.

SHERIFF COBURN'S most ardent supporters are down in the Third ward among the class that is always law-defying and disorderly. This is a very good reason why Mr. Coburn should not be given a third term. The trouble with him has been that he values the good will and support of law-breakers and keepers of dives and dens a good deal more than the respect of law-abiding citizens.

NOTWITHSTANDING the efforts of patriotic gentlemen to make the Missouri navigable, the mucky persists in a contrary course. Even the government flatboat can scarcely wobble through the islands of sand which pillow its bed. As an artery of commerce the Missouri leads to bankruptcy.

THE British scheme to secure payment of Confederate bonds is more of a brace game than a legitimate business transaction. It will not work. It is not probable that foreign capital will be kept out of profitable investments in the south for the purpose of forcing payment of spurious and illegal bonds.

OMAHA has shown a very friendly disposition toward Sioux City. Now let us see how Sioux City will reciprocate. Up to this time she has thrown cold water upon every enterprise that Omaha has undertaken and her papers have belittled and misrepresented Omaha at every turn.

THE explosion of the Mississippi steamboat Corona at New Orleans, by which upwards of forty lives were lost, still further strengthens the claim of 1889 to being the casualty year in the history of the country.

IT took Columbus a number of years to hustle for the money necessary for the discovery of America. It seems a much greater task, however, for New York to raise sufficient cash to properly celebrate the event.

JUDGE GROFF is a western man with western sympathies. His knowledge of the trials and hardships of homestead-

ing on the frontier insure an honest and just administration of the land laws. His first decision is cheering proof of his purpose to give honest settlers the benefit of the doubt in all contests.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

The victory gained by the republicans in France, owing to all friends of representative institutions, but there is a tendency to magnify it to an extent not warranted by the facts. The republican majority in the next chamber of deputies will not only be unexampled, but it will scarcely be greater than that held in the last chamber, and will probably be somewhat less.

Neither has there been a uniform diminution in republican sentiment in the past dozen years. On a total popular vote which has not varied much in recent elections from 7,000,000, the majority for the republicans was about 800,000 in 1877, 3,400,000 in 1881, and but 400,000 in 1885. The vote of the country in last Sunday's elections is not yet known, but it is hardly probable that the popular majority for the republicans will be much greater than it was twelve years ago.

There were specific influences which affected injuriously the foes of the republic in 1881 and its friends in 1885, but these influences were not permanent. Houlstien is undoubtedly developed to speedy destruction, yet he would be a rash man who, while knowing anything about recent French history and the drift and potency of the forces which combine to make French politics, should predict that Bonapartists and Bourbon parties have made their last appearance in a national election. It is likely probable, to be sure, that the republican system in France will endure the most exacting tests to which it will be subjected in the future, but many decades will undoubtedly pass before the foes of its existence will become extinct.

Russia is now engaged in raising a new loan, and Germany repeats her old tactics of making the most of war rumors in order to frighten the capitalists. Incidentally an unsettled feeling will help Bismarck in pushing his new scheme for the enlargement of the German army. We have had accounts of six Russian regiments of cavalry sent forward to join the thirty-four regiments already on the German-Austrian frontier. Infantry from the Caucasus has also been sent to the western borders. Emperor William plans to extend his southern tour to Constantinople, which in all probability he would not do if he were upon cordial relations with the czar, who will be extremely irritated by the Russian move. These incidents have caused a renewal of speculation regarding the chances of a European war. It may pertinently be asked what elements are there in the present war scare more dangerous than the many that have preceded it. The excitement in Europe just before the restoration of Gladstone was occasioned by the aggression of Russia in Afghanistan. A conflict between England and Russia would have been viewed by Bismarck with great complacency. The actual danger of war was not great at any time during that crisis, as Russia was experimenting upon the extent of England's forbearance. The next serious crisis was the outbreak of an impending struggle between Germany and France. And yet this generation is evidently not destined to see another war between the fatherland and the republic, as the sentiment of revenge for the losses of the Franco-Prussian war is fast dying out in France. It is only when the czar interferes and drives down upon herself the wrath of Bismarck and frightened the reichstag to pass his seven-years' army bill, that the natural rivalry of Europe came face to face. The danger of the present situation is that the two civilizations are now matched for a fight either on the field or in diplomacy and intrigue. From now on the world may expect stirring times. The triple alliance is secure, and the czar must either fight or abandon the historic policy and ambition of the Romanoffs.

THE completion of 1,000 miles of railway in Japan was celebrated on July 10 by a grand banquet. While Japan has 1,000 miles of rail, China has only eighty-six and one-half miles; but it now seems probable that in less than twenty years the "Middle Kingdom" will have as many miles of rails as may then be found in the territory of its more progressive neighbor. The recent decree of the emperor of China, directing that work on a railway 700 miles long should be undertaken at once, was issued only eight months after the sudden and unexpected interruption of work on the proposed extension of the Tien-Tsin line. A road eighty-six and one-half miles long, connecting Tien-Tsin and Taku with certain coal mines, and lying wholly in that far northern province which contains the city of Peking, had been completed and was in operation. Surveyors were at work upon an extension of it to Tung-Chow, and had located forty-five miles, when they were suddenly withdrawn. The engineers, the astrologers, and other conservatives had overcome the liberals, and apparently had reversed the railroad policy of the government. There had been a great fire in the imperial palace, and the astrologers were induced to declare that this fire had been caused by the malign influence of the new railway. The conservatives urged that all European nations were leaving up their railways, and were trying to unload the national rails upon the Chinese people. For a time they seemed to exercise a greater influence than that of Li Hung Chang, the great viceroys, and other liberal statesmen. It now appears that while the liberals seemed to be in disfavor, they had not lost the confidence of the emperor, and the conservatives and the great exploiters who were the first to gaze upon the equatorial lakes. The paths which Speke, Burton, Grant and Stanley followed on their peaceful missions are now the route of an army bent upon destroying the rebel chief Hashiri, who, having been driven out of all the coast towns he defended, has taken refuge among the mountains. It is a striking illustration of the great change that has come over the east coast, that the main outlet through which the secrets of inner Africa have reached the civilized world is now the pathway of an invading army. No other route has been so familiar to us in the narratives of explorers as the region through which Wissmann's little army is advancing. To-day he is pushing across the jungle and the dreaded Makata swamp, through which many a traveler has floundered, buoyed up only by the hope of reaching the great mountains looming before him scores of miles away. The war in east Africa has entered upon a new stage. Most of the long stretch of coast where the revolt against German rule began is now controlled by the Germans. A large part of the rebel force has retreated inland, and it is possible that Wissmann's advance may result only in driving them further toward the lakes, whence, like the Mahdists, they may be able to menace white enterprises for an indefinite time, or as long as they can procure snaggled supplies of ammunition.

His majesty the sultan of Morocco, Non-Joy Hassan, has just indignantly released the Spanish vessel captured by the Rifians on the Moroccan coast. Spain, from

long experience, understands how to handle her neighbors across the Straits, and the sultan concluded with great promptitude not to mar the comfort and splendor of his present visit to Tetuan, Tangier and other ports, by running the risk of a bombardment from a Spanish fleet. The claim of the Rifians is that the Spanish craft was a smuggler, and some of the Madrid authorities seem to have thought this possible, but, knowing whom they were dealing with, they demanded release first and got it. A peremptory method was also found to be the most satisfactory by our own consular officer at Tangier last year. Possibly Spain would have been as well pleased had the sultan yielded more slowly and given a chance to land some troops. In fact, the incident is not yet quite closed, as the question of reparation and compensation will come up, especially if it be true that the Rifians fired on the Spanish gunboat Coccodrillo and that the captain of the captured craft died of ill usage. But Lord Salisbury has already announced the sultan to make ample reparation, and probably he will consent to do so.

If the report from China that rich mines of gold-bearing quartz have been discovered in that ancient empire are confirmed, one more illustration will be thus furnished of a wonderful fact in the world's history, namely: The Orient is renewing the youth by contact with the occident. The report says that American machinery and American workmen are to be employed by the Chinese government to extract the treasure from its fastness. Probably the fact is, if the report has a basis in truth, that this country is slowly but surely becoming an artificial character often remarked, but until modern applied science came into the field, no one was aware of any process by which the gold could be separated from the rock. In many parts of the old world which have been thought to be long ago worn out, one day, in the paper way, and as we have seen, nothing new remained to be discovered, done or hoped for, new world enterprise and intelligence are gradually proving that early civilizations only scratched the surface of the earth.

While several nations are now blockading a long stretch of African coasts to keep slaves from getting out and firearms from getting in, it is a little remarkable that in some regions improved weapons are pouring into inner Africa at a great rate, apparently with the connivance of the very nations engaged in the blockade. When the king of Matabeli land recently consented to let white men dig for gold in Matabeli land, which is now talked of as the coming Eldorado, he stipulated that 1,000 breech-loading rifles and 100,000 cartridges must be sent to him. They have just passed through British territory to the country of the bloodthirsty Matabeli.

With their own rude weapons they have been the scourge of South Africa, and it now looks as though the British were arming them the more effectually to wipe out all the surrounding tribes. In spite of the blockade the trade in guns and powder seems to go on without let or hindrance along the Zambezi and in the Nyassa region, where Portugal, to serve her own purposes, is sending the goods far and wide into the country.

The czar of Russia has interested himself in the subject of executions by electricity. He has more opportunities for experiment with it than any other potentate, and the autocratic power can break aside the electrical theorists hired to advocate one side or the other and determine the matter by actual tests, regardless of the effect they may have on the reputation for death-dealing power of particular systems of electric lighting.

Running Out With Em.
Chicago News.
The new northwest was clock full of republicans on Tuesday.

The Measure of a Trust.
Baltimore American.
Within a month after trust securities have declined from \$125 to \$85. This looks very much as if public confidence in that unshaky combination is ebbing out.

The Baby Couldn't Stand It.
London Journal.
Howard Owen, the famous Augustus journalist, and almost equally famous judge of baby shows, acted in this capacity at the Grange fair in August this year. He explains in his paper why he did not kiss the sweet little things this time: he kissed a colored baby in an unguarded moment and the baby's darling died in three months from that time.

Editor Halstead Was Satisfied.
Cincinnati Commercial Gazette.
Mr. Halstead, of the Commercial Gazette, has never opened his guns on anyone who voted against his confirmation as minister to Germany, and feels as well pleased with the result as any of the senators, though he is not delighted with their methods. He feels that he received two great compliments—one his nomination for president, the other his rejection by the senate.

WHY WE LAUGH.
Chicago Tribune: Guest (angrily)—Confound your awkwardness! You've split half that soup down my back. Waiter at restaurant (heartily)—Don't mind it, sir. I'll bring more mors. Bless you, there's plenty of soup!

New York Sun: Miss Trumont—And to think that after all those thousands of years there should be so much water in the sea! One would suppose it would have dried up long ago. Miss Kornacker—Yes, that's so. But then, you know, it has heaps of salt in it, and papa says the way salt preserves things is wonderful.

Detroit Free Press: "Any fried oysters?" he asked of the keeper of an eating stall on the market. "Well, no; not exactly fried oysters," said the answer. "What is it?" "Cold corned beef." "Oh, that's near enough, and you may slice 'em off some. I expect it's all in the name anyway."

New York Sun: Lord Howells (at his first ball game)—Aw, I think I understand the aw—principles of the game now, but what aw—is the basis of it? Tom Sport—Ingham (The Chase): Clap here, this afternoon, and he looked so hungry that I gave him a large piece of gossamer pie. I wonder how he feels now? Hotterick (gloomily)—I know how he feels. I had a piece of that pie at dinner, you remember.

American Commercial Traveler: "Mr. Nice, are you ill?" asked little Johnnie Todde the other evening of his sister's best friend. "Why, no, Johnnie; what makes you ask such a question?" "Oh, because I heard sister say to mamma that she thought you must be sick to think she'd marry you for nothing but looks."

Burlington Free Press: Halheaded and very homely old gentleman to photographer—Don't show pictures. Can't you make me look any better than that after five sittings? Photographer (exasperated)—I think I can, sir, if you allow me to take the back of your

head. It isn't so much expression as the other side, but it's a blamed sight prettier.

Lawrence American: Mr. Goodcatch (calling on the eldest sister)—Why, Johnny, how are you growing? You'll be a man before your sister, if you keep on. Johnny—You bet I will. Sister'll never be a man if she keeps on being twenty like she has for the last five years. Then there was trouble in the household.

GILBERT M. LAWS ARRANGED.

An Old Soldier Shows Up His Record in the McCook Land Office.
Sutton, Neb., Oct. 3.—To the Editor of THE BEE: On the 3d day of July, 1884, I was at the McCook land office and entered the southeast quarter of section 23-4-82 as a soldier's homestead. In December, 1884, I went up to the land described to make settlement. But on arrival at McCook I was informed by a friend that said land had been entered by one Mrs. M. McGill. I made my way to the land office and called up said land. Hon. Mr. Laws, the register, informed me that the land in question had been entered by one Mrs. M. McGill. I told Mr. Laws that there must be some mistake, that I entered said land on the 3d day of July, 1884, and had the receipt therefor. He told me I didn't, and after some words he ordered me out of the land office, and said he could do nothing for me and that I would have to wait till Mr. Babcock came from New Orleans.

In March, 1885, I went to the McCook land office, and again called up the land above described. Mr. Laws and Mr. Babcock were both in the office. They told me I never had made an entry of said land. After some talk I produced the receipt of entry. Mr. Babcock turned to the safe, got the duplicate entry, and handed it to me with my old charge papers, also paying me back my entry fee and said there had been a mistake, and they could do nothing for me.